CLAIMS

1. A microscope, comprising:

a base,

a support arm attached to and extending upwardly from the base;

a head attached to the support arm, the head including at least one lens;

an eyepiece attached to the head and in optical communication with the lens;

a stage positioned between the head and the base;

at least one electrically-powered component;

an electrical cord electrically connected to the at least one electrically-powered component; and

a cord retractor positioned within the base, the cord retractor configured to retract at least a portion of the electrical cord into the cord retractor.

2. The microscope of claim 1, wherein the at least one electrically-powered component comprises one or more of the following: an illuminator, an LCD display screen, a battery charger, or a digital camera.

3. The microscope of claim 1, wherein the cord retractor is an automatic cord retractor configured to automatically retract the electrical cord into the cord retractor in response to a user input.

4. The microscope of claim 1, wherein the cord retractor is a manual cord retractor configured to retract the electrical cord into the cord retractor in response to a manual winding action of a user.